

CASE AG/W-21739/P1/AC 438

US PATENT NUMBER 6,000,625

ISSUED: DECEMBER 14, 1999

FILED: JUNE 18, 1998

SERIAL NUMBER 09/099,218

TITLE: IRRIGATION METHOD

INVENTOR: RICHARD E. COLE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

**Box Reissue**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants present the instant Preliminary Amendment for entry and consideration in order to place the instant reissue application in better condition for examination on its merits and for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due, or credit any overcharge, as a result of this Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. 03-1935.

10043989-121004

Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:


**Amend** claim 1 by replacement as follows:

1. (amended) A method of irrigating a crop area of at least 1000 m<sup>2</sup> by pumping water through feed ducting and a mixing zone to a spray manifold supplying one or more spraying devices by which the water is sprayed onto the crop area and in which a substantially stable dispersion in a liquid of water soluble polymer particles is metered at a predetermined rate of 0.5 to 50 ppm into the water at or before the mixing zone and the polymer particles are substantially dissolved into the water before the water is sprayed from the spraying devices.

Remarks

Upon entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-13 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to increase the polymer concentration range to 50 ppm. Support for the amendment is found on column 5, lines 9-13 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,000,625. No new matter has been added. If minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted

  
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### Marked Up Claims

1. (amended) A method of irrigating a crop area of at least 1000 m<sup>2</sup> by pumping water through feed ducting and a mixing zone to a spray manifold supplying one or more spraying devices by which the water is sprayed onto the crop area and in which a substantially stable dispersion in a liquid of water soluble polymer particles is metered at a predetermined rate of 0.5 to ~~30~~50 ppm into the water at or before the mixing zone and the polymer particles are substantially dissolved into the water before the water is sprayed from the spraying devices.

10013989-121001